4: Garnett B-4, 5 (ca. 1880) 1891
EG1 Albania EG1

539
173
Scared at the sound, he in the tekkéh [1] hides,
His standards leaves, nor heeds what them betides;
Beard and moustache he tears with flowing tear,
And in a swoon at length he falls from fear.

Mahmoud his charger mounts, and riding out
His men before, now "Forward!" hear him shout;
"Forward with me! to-day, if Allah will,
I Kourd Pasha with my own hand will kill."

Now, like a roaring lion, where'er he goes,
With Allah's aid, in terror flee his foes;
The tekkéh of Baba Hussein before,
See how they rend from Tosks the spoils of war!

Veli escapes. Poor Tahir, from the rout
Into the mill thou fleest; there dost hold out.
It is in vain that bravely still thou fight;
How couldst thou stand against this vulture's might?

Death thee awaits, this day will be thy last,
Riddled with balls, thy troops are fleeing fast;
Long will it be before the Tosks forget
The valour of the Ghegs when last they met.

Now to his men hear Agha Rouka cry,
"Are ye then women, that from foe ye fly?
Of what avail the manly arms ye bear?
Of what avail the sabres bright ye wear?

Rally yourselves, as skirmishers in bands,
Fall on the Ghegs, and, with your curvéd brands,
Strike off their heads! Who falls the field upon
Wept is, but scorned who lives with honour gone!"

Naught heed they him, but in confusion fly.
Tosks of Berat! your sandals [2] go and tie!
Measure no more yourselves with Scutarine,
Who flees not, wields true gun, and sabre keen!

[346]
[291]
[281]

[1] A Dervish chapel.

[2] The hide shoes, with the hairy side turned inwards, worn generally in the mountains.

11: Start E-4 (no date) 1939 EF1 Yugoslavia EF1
Croats EF4
Balkan Peoples E13
Serbs EF6
Albania EG1

C
291
286
531

By using different colours of silk a pattern of greater effect is produced, in this case larger squares of orange and black, consisting of nine small ones, are arranged alternately to form diagonal rows, divided by rows of single small squares in self colour. Each large square has the central small one worked in gold thread, and the edges of the girdle are whipped with self-coloured silk.

Footwear.

S
A
B
Y
291
531
286
281

All over the Balkans and in Albania both men and women of the peasant tribes and of the hill tribes wear two pairs of thick, knitted woollen socks, the outer pair being elaborately decorated with appliqué and embroidery on top of the knitting, and forming a sort of slipper when the outdoor sandal is discarded on entering the house. " In Yugoslavia these over-socks are called ' opanke ', in Albania ' opangi ' and in Rumania ' opinatsi '. The sandals are made of roughly dried hide, and when newly made the soles are soaked in oil till pliable. This helps to mould them to the foot, and the pliability of the leather gives the toes a good grip, especially on rocks or when climbing." (M.E.D.).

With the exception of a pair of leather opanke from Nish (Niš) in Serbia, made to fit a child (No. 1936-62), the opanke and socks in this collection are all of Albanian origin. They are illustrated and described in Section II.

11: Start E-4 (no date) 1939 EF1 Yugoslavia EF1
Albania EG1
Serbs EF6
Montenegrins EF5

A 291 294 531 286

No. 1835-32. This is another head scarf of hand woven cotton of a muslin-like quality, with heavier weft stripes of a coarser cotton thread used double. It has three narrow brocaded borders in red and yellow at the ends measuring 3¼ inches over all, in which the motive at "b" on Plate X forms the two outer borders, and the double lozenge and hour-glass motives fill the central one.

This is the least interesting of the examples of head-dresses.

CHAPTER XVI.

Footwear.

S M A Y 291 281 286 531

Throughout Albania and Yugoslavia both men and women peasants and people of the mountain tribes wear two pairs of socks and a sandal, "opanga" or "opanke," of roughly dried hide over them when out-of-doors. Both their pairs of socks are knitted from rather coarse strong wool, the inner ones are usually white and the outer ones of gay colours handsomely embroidered or braided.

FIG. 9.—A, Silver braided knitted outer with inner sock. Grouda, W. Albania. B, String opanke with leather sole from Montenegro. C, Child's opanke of leather from Nish. D, Knitted outer sock with needle worked decoration. E, Outer sock from Kastrati tribe.

"The two layers of sock are needed to protect the sole of the foot as the hide used in the sandals or 'opanke' is thin and pliant. On entering the house the opanke are removed and the decorative over-sock forms a slipper." (M.E.D.).

A 286 291 531 294

There are six pairs of over-socks in the collection, and two pairs have their inner socks still inside them.

No. 1835-73. Three of the styles are shown in Fig. 9. The drawing at "A" is of a particularly handsome example from Grouda, in Western Albania. The over-sock is knitted from violet wool with the back of the heel and the front of the foot decorated by plaited silver braid and cord, outlined by a plait of black and silver.